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Montréal Communiqué

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Approximately 275 words*

No-holds-barred Speaker

To Address Y Annual Meet

John J. Carson - human relations expert, outspoken social commentator, head of Canada's Civil Service - will be the keynote speaker at the Montreal YMCA's 117th annual meeting.

Mr. Carson, father of six, is also National President of the YMCAs of Canada.

The meeting, open to the news media, will be held on Monday, October 6, in Budge Hall, Downtown YMCA, 1441 Drummond Street. It will start at 6:00 p.m., with a buffet supper.

R. G. Rogers, General Secretary of the Montreal YMCA, will discuss the Association's activities for the first four months ended September 30 and outline plans and objectives for the remainder of the current fiscal year.

During the twelve months ended May 31, 1969, emphasis of all operating units of the Montreal YMCA was, increasingly, on the development of operating objectives and programs which could convert general aspirations into specifically positive actions.

Though activities which encourage individual self-development remained high on the YMCA's list of priorities, each branch concentrated on providing the types of programs most needed in their constituencies.

Main objectives of in-building programs were to promote physical education, fitness, leadership capabilities, sports and social skills, self-awareness, aquatics, family unity and understanding between different age and ethnic groups.

Outside of branches, detached work programs were carried on in a number of areas. This YMCA-pioneered approach was started 3½ years ago to establish contact with alienated young people, help them identify real concerns and assist in a search for positive alternatives to destructive anarchy and indifference.

In line with steps to become a more effective social force, the Y also involved itself more deeply with community concerns and human rights. This, in turn, led to greater involvements with young people, other organizations, the French-speaking community and governments.

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